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The introduction of night navigation was delayed because the lighting gear needed was not delivered by VEB Gaselan, Berlin. The firm had difficulties in obtaining material and therefore refused to conclude delivery contracts. Previous delivery terms could not be kept and this entailed a delay of several months in the introduction of night navigation.

Comment. Difficulties in navigation have arisen because that inland navigation was not prepared for round-the-clock operations. Such operations would require work in at least two shifts, but the increased personnel could not be accommodated aboard inland vessels. Moreover, navigation in restricted and, in most cases, shallow water is rather difficult to navigate. Night navigation, therefore, is opposed by those engaged in inland navigation.

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